IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.

Applicant

Elena CONTI et al.

Filed

Herewith

TC/A.U.

Unassigned

Examiner

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments prior to examination on the merits.

Amendment to the Specification begins on page 2 of this paper.

Amendment to the Claims begins on page 3 of this paper.

Amendment to the Abstract begins on page 15 of this paper.

Remarks/**Arguments** begin on page 16 of this paper.

An *Appendix* including a clean copy of the substitute specification is attached following page 16 of this paper.